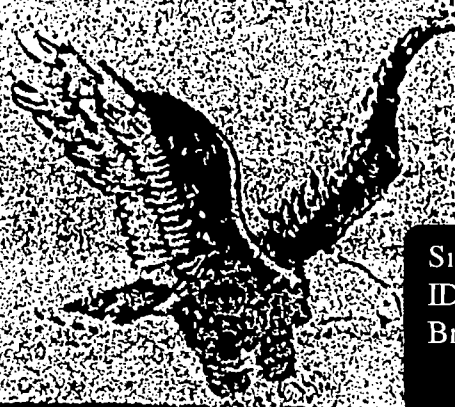


INSTALLATION ASSESSMENT
OF
ST. LOUIS ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT

REPORT NO. 153

DECEMBER 1979



Site St Louis Ordnance Plant
ID MO82100224645
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US ARMY
TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AGENCY

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND 21010

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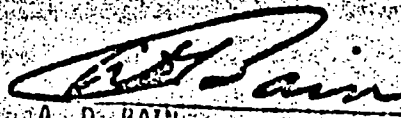
STATEMENT

The views, opinions, and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy, or decision, unless so designated by other documentation.

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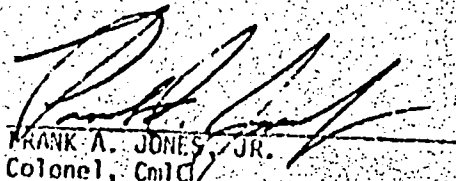
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CONCUR:



A. D. BAIN
Commander's Representative
St. Louis Army Ammunition Plant

APPROVED:



FRANK A. JONES, JR.
Colonel, Ch1C
Commanding
US Army Toxic and Hazardous
Materials Agency

ABSTRACT

A records search was conducted to assess the environmental quality of St. Louis Army Ammunition Plant (SLAAP) with regard to the use, storage, treatment, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials and to define any condition which may adversely affect health and welfare or result in environmental degradation.

Operations at the plant were exclusively devoted to the production of metal parts for 105mm projectile casings. All casings were shipped to other Army Ammunition Plants for filling and final assembly. The utilities for the plant operation were provided by the City of St. Louis.

The entire 8.5 hectare area encompassed by the plant is covered with buildings, macadam, or concrete pads.

The records search revealed no indications of contamination from past operations at SLAAP.

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I. GENERAL

A. Purpose of the Assessment

To assess the environmental quality of St. Louis Army Ammunition Plant (SLAAP) with regard to the use, storage, treatment, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials and to define any conditions which may adversely affect health and welfare or result in environmental degradation.

B. Authority

DARCOM Regulation 10-30, Mission and Major Functions of the US Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency (USATHAMA), 22 May 1977.

C. Introduction

1. In response to a letter from the Project Manager for Chemical Demilitarization and Installation Restoration (PM CDIR), now USATHAMA, requesting the identification of potentially contaminated installations, the Commander, US Army Armament Materiel Readiness Command (ARRCOM), recommended SLAAP be included in the Installation Restoration Program.

2. Presurvey instructions were forwarded to SLAAP by letter on 20 December 1978 to outline assessment scope, provide guidelines to SLAAP personnel, and obtain information for review by the Records Search Team prior to the onsite search.

3. Personnel were briefed by USATHAMA on the Installation Restoration Program prior to the onsite records search.

4. Various government agencies were contacted during the period of 8 January 1979 through 23 March 1979 for documents pertinent to the records search effort. Agencies contacted included:

- a. Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB).
- b. US Army Environmental Hygiene Agency (USAEHA).
- c. US Geological Survey (USGS).
- d. US Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (WES).
- e. National Technical Information Service (NTIS).
- f. US Army Armament Materiel Readiness Command (ARRCOM).
- g. Chemical Systems Laboratory (CSL).

5. The onsite phase of the records search was conducted from 5 March through 9 March 1979. The following personnel were assigned to the team and prepared the report:

- a. Mr. Norman Leibel, Team Leader, CSL.
- b. Mr. Jerry Cichowicz, General Engineer, CSL.
- c. Mr. Reuben Proper, Chemist, CSL.
- d. SP4 Janice Canterbury, Environmentalist, CSL.
- e. Mr. Harry Woods, Geologist, WES.

6. In addition to the review of records, interviews were conducted with several employees. A ground tour of the installation was also conducted and photographs taken during this tour are included as Appendix A.

7. The findings, conclusions, and recommendations are based on the records made available at the time of the search. Where conspicuous discrepancies existed, attempts were made to determine the validity of information by contacting other sources.

D. Brief History

The 8.5 hectares (ha) now comprising SLAAP were originally included in the 111.7 ha area of the St. Louis Ordnance Plant. The Ordnance Plant was the largest small arms ammunition installation in the world and embodied three operating divisions: shell, core, and ammunition.

The existing plant area, a small portion of the Ordnance Plant, was constructed in 1941 for the production of small arms ammunition. With the addition of the Nick and Break Area and the Forge Building in 1944, the present plant was converted from small arms to 105mm projectile production.

After producing 2,500,000 projectiles for the World War II requirement, the plant was placed in "Standby-Under Power Extended Storage Condition" by the Chevrolet Motor Division, General Motors Corporation in September 1945. The St. Louis Ordnance District maintained the plant on a standby basis with civil service personnel until its reactivation on 25 March 1951 by the Chevrolet Motor Division. The contract for production was transferred from the St. Louis Ordnance District to the St. Louis Ordnance Plant in March 1952. Production from 1951 to 1954 totaled 19,094,325 projectiles. Plant operations were terminated as of 1 May 1954. Interim maintenance was performed until 30 August 1954 when a layaway contract was approved. On 31 December 1958, the maintenance contract with General Motors was terminated and maintenance was assumed by the United States Defense Corporation (ODin) and continued until 1966. In September 1966, Chevrolet Motor Division started reactivation and took over the complete operation. The first production was accepted in November 1966. When operations were terminated in December 1969, 23,878,646 projectiles had been produced. Layaway operations were started immediately and were completed by April 1970. General Motors continued maintenance of the plant until February 1972.

On 1 March 1972, Donovan Construction Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was awarded a contract for the maintenance and surveillance of SLAAP. In addition to the maintenance and surveillance contract, a companion facilities contract was executed on the same date. These contracts have been renewed annually since that time. The facilities contract was used as an instrument to procure 94 major pieces of production equipment. The equipment is stored at SLAAP pending a decision by the Department of the Army as to whether this plant should be modernized or if a new facility should be built elsewhere.

Donovan Construction Company subcontracted the maintenance and surveillance of this installation to Plant Facilities and Engineering, Incorporated, from inception; the subcontractor continues to provide this service at the present time.

E. Leases

1. There are no active leases at SLAAP.
2. SLAAP leases 11,858 square meters of property from the State of Missouri to be used as a parking lot in the event of mobilization.
3. There have never been any active grazing or agricultural leases at SLAAP.

F. Legal Actions

There are presently no legal actions pending against SLAAP and neither available records nor personnel interviewed revealed that there had ever been any legal suits resulting from production contamination.